THE TRANSFORMERS CONTINUUM

THE DEFINITIVE CHRONOLOGY

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Cybertron. A world made of metal, come to life. The population: a powerful race of robots with the ability to change shape—an ability born out of a need to survive—a need for disguise.

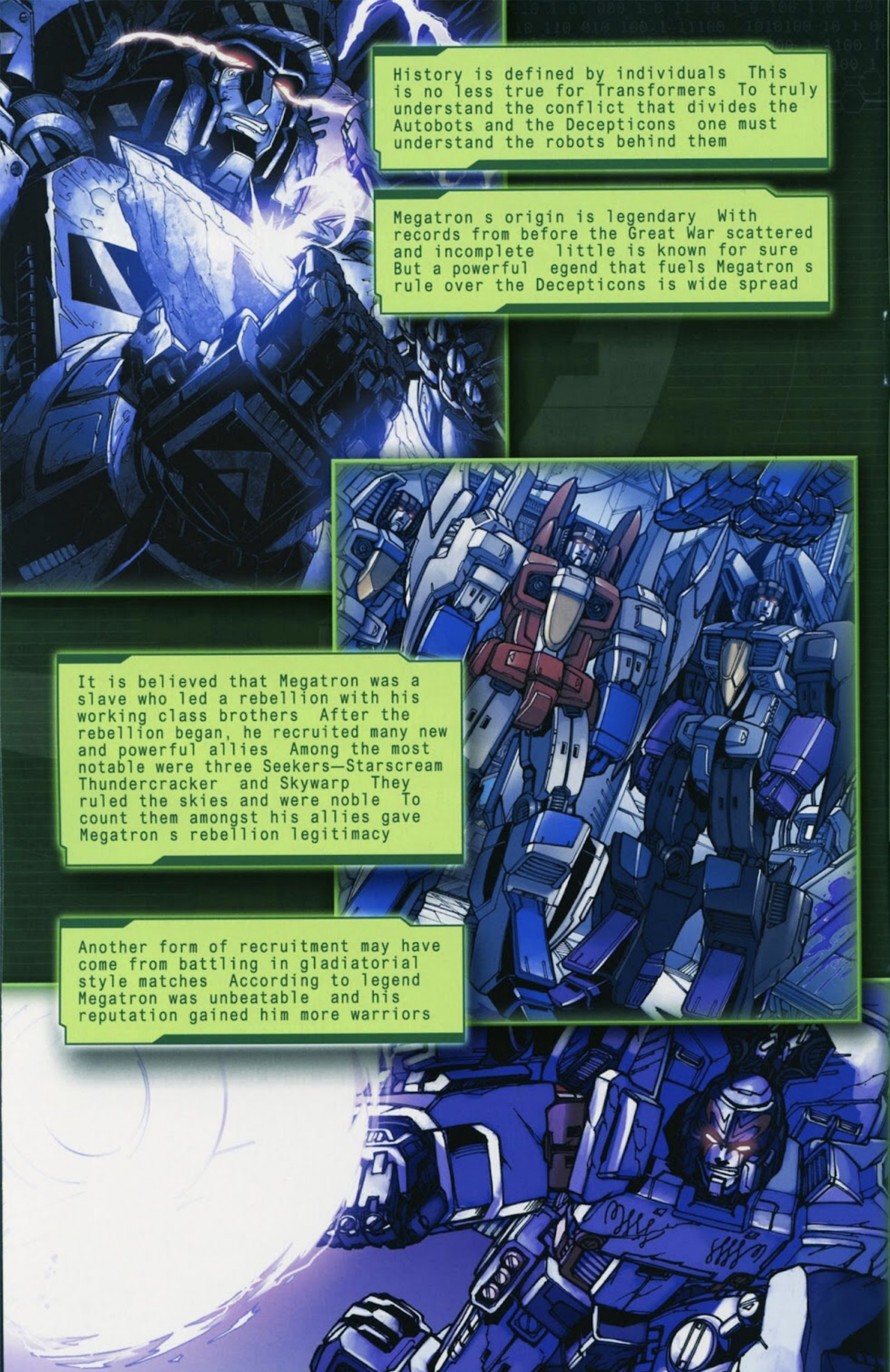
Cybertron. A world at war. Splitting into two warring factions, the Transformers are comprised of heroic Autobots led by Optimus Prime and evil Decepticons led by Megatron the merciless.

Cybertron. After ages of fighting, the world is dead. The war, too brutal to be contained by one planet, has spread outward across space to...

Earth. Our home. Their battleground. Unbeknownst to the Cybertronians, Earth holds the key to the Transformers war. The question is, what is that key and who will discover it?

Earth. Called "A pale blue dot" by some. It's the pivotal planet for an intergalactic war. Like the Transformers themselves, Earth is much more than meets the eye...

What follows is an account of the TRANSFORMERS story as we understand it today. Most files and records were lost during The Great War, but some legends have lived on...


History is defined by individuals This is no less true for Transformers To truly understand the conflict that divides the Autobots and the Decepticons one must understand the robots behind them
Megatron s origin is legendary With records from before the Great War scattered and incomplete little is known for sure But a powerful egend that fuels Megatron s rule over the Decepticons is wide spread
It is believed that Megatron was a slave who led a rebellion with his working class brothers After the rebellion began, he recruited many new and powerful allies Among the most notable were three Seekers—Starscream Thundercracker and Skywarp They ruled the skies and were noble To count them amongst his allies gave Megatron s rebellion legitimacy
Another form of recruitment may have come from battling in gladiatorial style matches According to legend Megatron was unbeatable and his reputation gained him more warriors

And as his reputation grew it became impossible to ignore Sentinel Prime—then leader of the Autobots—it is said challenged Megatron to a one on one battle Sentinel Prime had never been defeated in single combat But neither had Megatron…
the result was not in Sentinel Prime s favor
With an uprising behind him and the defeat of Sentinel Prime,no one could challenge Megatron's absolute authority
It is believed that at this point Megatron s quest for better treatment turned into an insatiable hunger for control

The precise time or incident that sparked The Great War is no longer known for sure What is known is that shortly after Megatron s rise in prominence every robot on Cybertron was forced to choose a side
One either joined the Autobots…
…Or Megatron s Decepticons
As the battles grew more fierce several soldiers began to rise in prominence It is widely believed that one such soldier —Optimus—would later become the leader of the Autobots No known records of this transformation exist

Elsewhere on Cybertron the coldly logical Decepticon known as Shockwave made a prediction that the conflict raging on the planet s surface would eventually deplete Cybertron s resources
He decided to take action— motivated purely for the survival of Cybertron and its Transformers
Dubbing it Project Regenesis Shockwave loaded raw energon—the life giving power source of all Transformers—onto rockets that he launched toward carefully chosen planets
The energon would over thousands of years seed these worlds with the abil ty to make new and even better energon
But unpredicted events would see to it that Shockwave s research would wait to bear fruit…

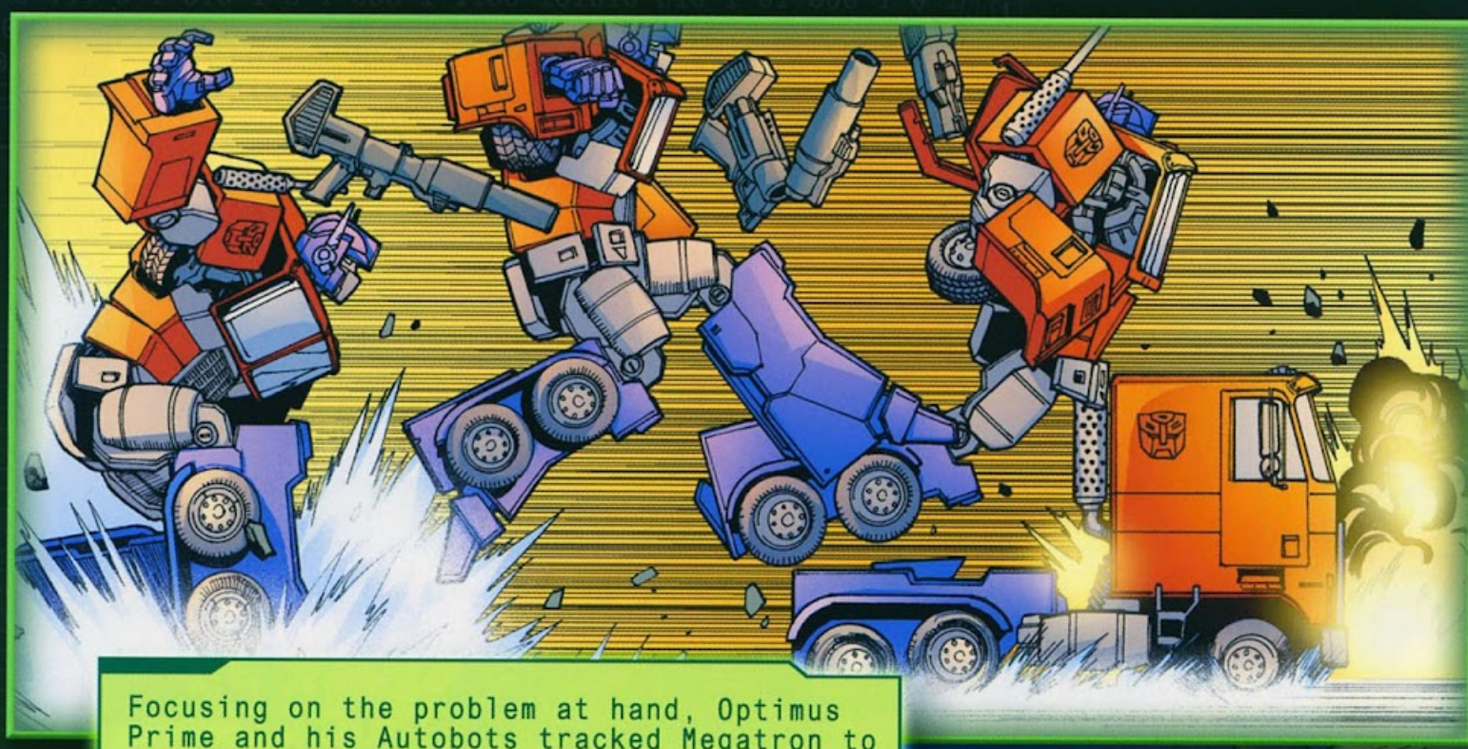
Years passed and the Great War raged on Every battle took a toll on Cybertron itself And it became clear it was dying
But it was not always just Autobot versus Decepticon
Eventually a great enemy named Thunderwing threatened both sides and for the first time Optimus Prime—leader of the Autobots—and Megatron would fight side by side, defeating the terrible foe But the cost of victory was high
All had to leave Cybertron Life could no longer be supported But when strange signals were found coming from the planet Optimus Prime knew he had to go back
His fears would soon be confirmed…
…Thunderwing, that terrible enemy of both Autobot and Decepticon still lived
How he survived and what he planned to do would remain a mystery What Optimus Prime did know is that he had to be stopped

In the ensuing battle and return to Cyberton, a rogue Decepticon named Bludgeon unlocked Shockwave s research files giving him access to all projects under Shockwave s care from years past
But the gem of all these projects was not Shockwave s "seeding of worlds " Bludgeon discovered experiments that might lead him to the next stage of evolution for Transformers…
…and through that research the bonding process of organic materia to his metal shell Bludgeon was reborn!
The battle with Thunderwing raged to a nearby planet —Nebulos There Optimus Prime and his Autobots made their final stand against Thunderwing
The stakes were high—Thunderwing possessed the power to destroy the planet—but the brave Autobots managed to defeat Thunderwing in a blaze of glory
Following Thunderwing s defeat Optimus Prime s team followed Bludgeon s trail Whi e ransacking Shockwave s files Bludegeon unintentionaly alerted the Autobots to Project Regenesis and one of its test subjects in particular was Earth
It appeared that Optimus Prime was willing to gamble that Earth would play a major role in the Autobot/Decepticon War

Earth Before Optimus Prime s arrival a group of Autobots led by Prowl had been assigned to watch and protect Earth
They knew Decepticons were on the planet, but they were ordered to stay in hiding and not to engage the enemy
That didn t exactly work out
Two young humans, Verity Carter and Hunter O Nion were quickly sucked into a conflict they couldn t possibly understand A conflict with…
ALIEN
DEATHRAY
…many more participants than they could have ever realized Fortunately for them they were rescued by the Autobots who wished them no harm

Realizing the Autobots were here to help them Verity and Hunter offered their own services
Knowing they wouldn t be detected as quickly as Bumblebee or Ratchet while trying to infiltrate a Decepticon base, the two humans climbed down a very dark hole only to come face to face…
…with fear itself
Megatron was on Earth
And where Megatron is so is Starscream It became clear that they had stumbled on some kind of coup attempt by Starscream to wrest control of the Decepticons away from Megatron
Starscream to his credit gave it everything he had
But it was not enough
Starscream s plan not only failed to overthrow Megatron but it also alerted Optimus Prime to Megatron s whereabouts
Earth was now the Autobots new home until the mysteries surrounding Project Regenesis and Megatron s interest in the planet could be determined

With his plan to conquer Earth now out in the open because of Starscream s attempted takeover Megatron saw no reason to remain hidden or to work slowly
Autobots Ironhide and Sunstreaker were tasked with keeping tabs on Verity and Hunter while the rest of the squad searched for the now relocated Megatron
Sunstreaker and Hunter were caught by a human strikeforce of unknown origin and seemingly murdered
Believing Hunter to be dead Ironhide and Verity were able to slip away unnoticed
Those same humans later put Autobots Wheeljack and Jazz down for the count But the name of the organization they work for was discovered—Skywatch
Skywatch s true purpose began to come into focus as operatives of the clandestine operation put Hunter O Nion into surgery
The Autobots believed Sunstreaker and Hunter were dead and thus did not search for them There was no hope of rescue



Focusing on the problem at hand, Optimus Prime and his Autobots tracked Megatron to Russia and engaged their hated foe

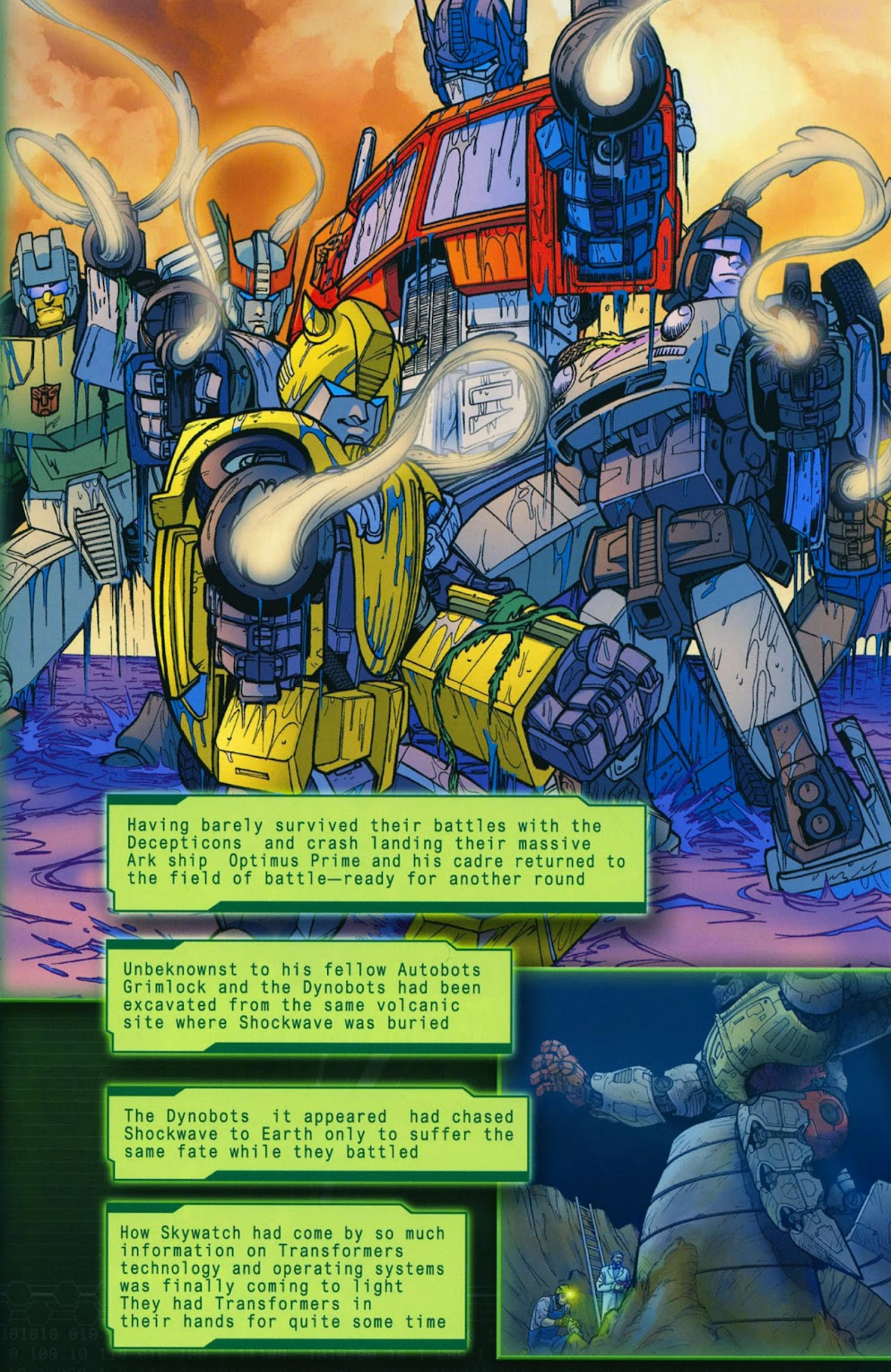
But Megatron is not an easy target and gave Optimus Prime a life threatening beating

Megatron was victorious

On Earth, Skywatch revealed discoveries made by analyzing Grimlock and his Dynobots
Grimlock himself had been trapped but the recent activity from Skywatch had weakened his prison
His mind reflected back on the decision to disobey orders and pursue Shockwave He knows even now that there is a warrant out for his arrest but he does not care
Shockwave must be punished!
But it wasn t Shockwave who Grimlock faced that day
The Decepticon scientist Scorponok had united with Skywatch and become a Headmaster! The combined form of Scorponok with his human counterpart turned out to be more than a match for Grimlock
Although Grimlock escaped his revenge on Shockwave must wait
Back on Garrus 9 the Autobots maximum security prison planet, horrific events had led to the revitalization of Arcee a dangerously ruthless female Transformer hell bent on killing Jhiaxus the evil scientist who tortured her
Her tortured mission was a success and she was freed to pursue her long lost foe…

Meanwhile across the galaxy Ultra Magnus a former general in the Autobot army was tracking down war criminals—specifically ones who offer Cybertronian technology to other races not yet ready for that kind of power
On this occasion his prey was Swindle who narrowly escaped the ordeal with his life, but did manage to lose Ultra Magnus by giving up Scorponok Ultra Magnus s most hated and elusive enemy
The ensuing carnage led Scorponok to Earth and Ultra Magnus ever fearless was not far behind…
At an even more remote part of the galaxy young Wheelie of the Autobots was stranded on a lonely island For years he hoped for company, companionship someone to talk with
And then he found them Together, they built a ship to get off the planet But when Decepticons attacked Wheelie s ship was sacrificed leaving them still stranded
And so Wheelie found refuge wherever he could…
…even if it was deep in a cave
Surely he d be safe here…

With Megatron s victory nearly complete a lone figure in a secluded Decepticon chamber awakened
Starscream would return
Hunter O Nion resumed consciousness only to discover that he had some kind of battle suit grafted onto his entire body He wasn t wearing armor…
…it was a part of him– allowing him to transform…
…into Sunstreaker s head
From here Hunter was able to contro the giant robot body perfectly
As terrible as this all was finding out Sunstreaker s real fate was that much more terrifying Sunstreaker decapitated, was kept on life support in case Skywatch would have further use for him


Having barely survived their battles with the Decepticons and crash landing their massive Ark ship Optimus Prime and his cadre returned to the field of battle—ready for another round
Unbeknownst to his fellow Autobots Grimlock and the Dynobots had been excavated from the same volcanic site where Shockwave was buried
The Dynobots it appeared had chased Shockwave to Earth only to suffer the same fate while they battled
How Skywatch had come by so much information on Transformers technology and operating systems was finally coming to light They had Transformers in their hands for quite some time

Ultra Magnus an Autobot whose mission is to prevent Cybertronian technology from getting offworld tracked several renegade Decepticons he suspected of being involved with Nova Prime and Jhiaxus- two Transformers long thought lost in a scientific expedition thousands of years ago
Meanwhile Cyclonus one of Nova Prime s crew and a powerful warrior reached a Nega Core and primed it to overload The resulting explosion could effect the very fabric of the universe
Nova Prime along with Jhiaxus and Galvatron hatched a plan to release themselves from their prison—another dimension known as "The Dead Universe "
In this terrible place nothing lives but nothing ever truly dies either They had been trapped here for millennia
So horrific was their fate Nova Prime was willing to doom two universes to find their ultimate release
Nova Prime revealed the source of his power-the perverted energy of a matrix which he calls the Heart of Darkness

As the Autobots advanced to prevent the Nega Core s demise Nova Prime sent Galvatron his most powerful comrade to intercept them
Optimus Prime out of time and options charged into battle with Nova Prime The result was not as intended
Meanwhile Jhiaxus the architect of thousands of mutilating experiments and mentor to Shockwave, finally met his angel of death His escape plan failed
Arcee saw to that
Optimus Prime was rescued by Galvatron who returned—not to help Prime—but to steal Nova Prime s power
For a brief moment Galvatron was infused with the Heart of Darkness
Knowing the power to be too great for any Transformer to contain and remain sane Optimus Prime threw Galvatron into the Nega Core seemingly terminating him

Coming off of a major victory against Nemesis Prime, the Autobots began to return home Megatron was at large and Sunstreaker s whereabouts were unknown
But the mystery of Shockwave's disappearance was solved—Skywatch had him
Skywatch fearing the wrath of Grimlock and his now free Dynobots offered Shockwave a deal—destroy the Dynobots and earn his freedom
Shockwave accepted
Elsewhere Hunter O Nion tried to free himself and Sunstreaker from Skywatch s control His efforts were admirable if not effective…
but when Sunstreaker was shot through the chest, Hunter appeared to be freed

At long last Grimlock got the chance to settle his score with Shockwave…
…even as Skywatch was destroyed!
Eventually after a long surgery, Hunter O Nion was separated from his metallic prison and rejoined his friends
Sunstreaker he was told would also survive
Grimlock turned himself over to Ultra Magnus to be taken to Garrus 9 along with Shockwave and Scorponok Ultra Magnus other two detainees
The rest of the Dynobots were cleared of all wrongdoing

After the defeats of Nova Prime Scorponok and Shockwave, the Autobots found the Earth strangely silent…

…for one year

Megatron s reappearance came swiftly as did his vengence

Simultaneously, Megatron s assault crushed all Autobot bases His battle was not just on Earth but across the galaxy

It was widely held that such a crushing defeat could only have been accomplished with the help of an inside Autobot—a traitor

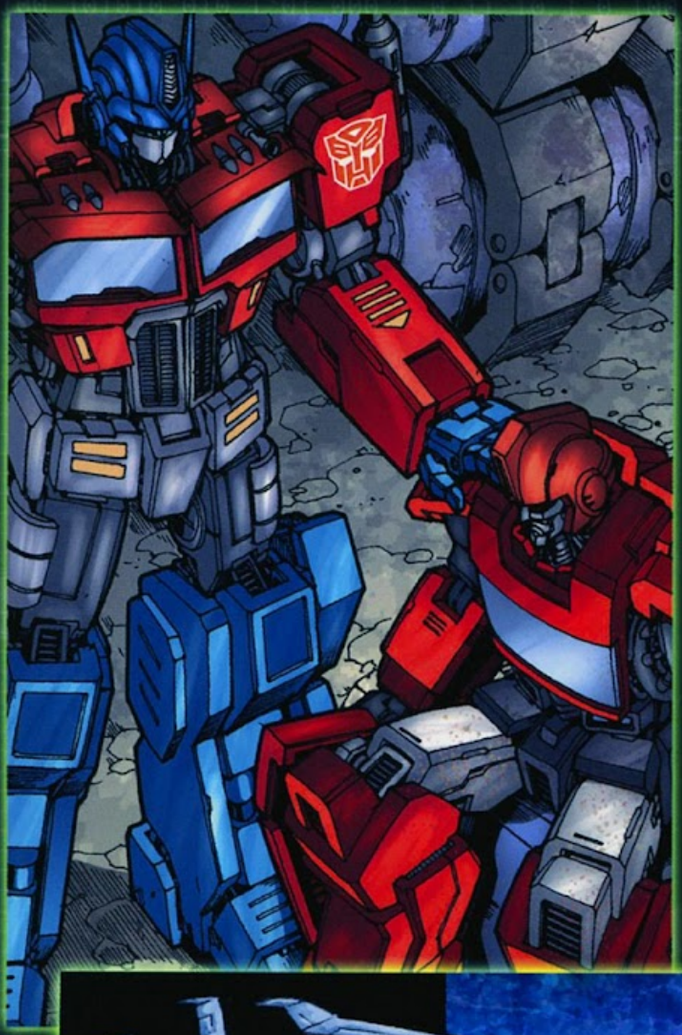
As Optimus Prime lay nearly dead the rest of the Autobots were scattered across space

Without Optimus Prime and his Autobots, the Earth never stood a chance The United States of America was the first nation to fall

The Autobots began to band together The old warhorse Kup led one squad that then linked up with Jazz and Ironhide s team
Meanwhile on Earth the humans put together a rebellion of their own
Spike Witwicky was the lone soldier to make his way into New York City the Decepticon s base of operations
Despite the regrouping tempers flared over suspicions and whisperings about who the traitor was
Mirage, a known war detractor was chief among the suspects
And if tearing themselves apart from the inside wasn t enough Cybertron had been overrun by new nhabitants while the Transformers had been away
This new lifeform is called the Swarm It is deadly It is unstoppable And it is legion

The sum of all Autobot fears unfolded They learned their precious Matrix of Leadership was stolen by Megatron ripped from Optimus Prime s heart
As the Autobots re lived their nightmare tempers flared and accusations flew Ironhide targeted Mirage believing him to be the traitor
But Mirage was cleared when Sunstreaker the tormented and tortured "Headmaster" confessed to the crime Racked with guilt Sunstreaker covered the Autobot escape from Cybertron sacrificing his own life in an attempt to atone for his sins
Hunter O Nion had also been captured by the Decepticons and tortured for information about the Autobots The eviscerated human had suffered more pain and anguish than anyone will ever know His mind was mush as the Decepticons had probed it constantly for Autobot secrets
But hope returned with the repair of Optimus Prime Now en route to Earth Optimus Prime took his broken team light years to face their foes…
…to face their fears

In the final battle
a battle that was decided not by Autobot nor Decepticon but by a lone human gunman
Spike Witwicky killed Megatron
The Decepticon threat was finally halted when one of their own—Thundercracker—betrayed his brothers catching a nuclear warhead targeting New York City and destroying it
His reward was a blaster fired into his back by fellow Decepticon and Seeker Skywarp
With their victory came more setbacks Hunter O Nion was beyond medical help Sideswipe Sunstreaker s brother in an act of mercy turned off the machines that kept Hunter alive
The war was over but more victims were discovered everyday The Earth was forever changed



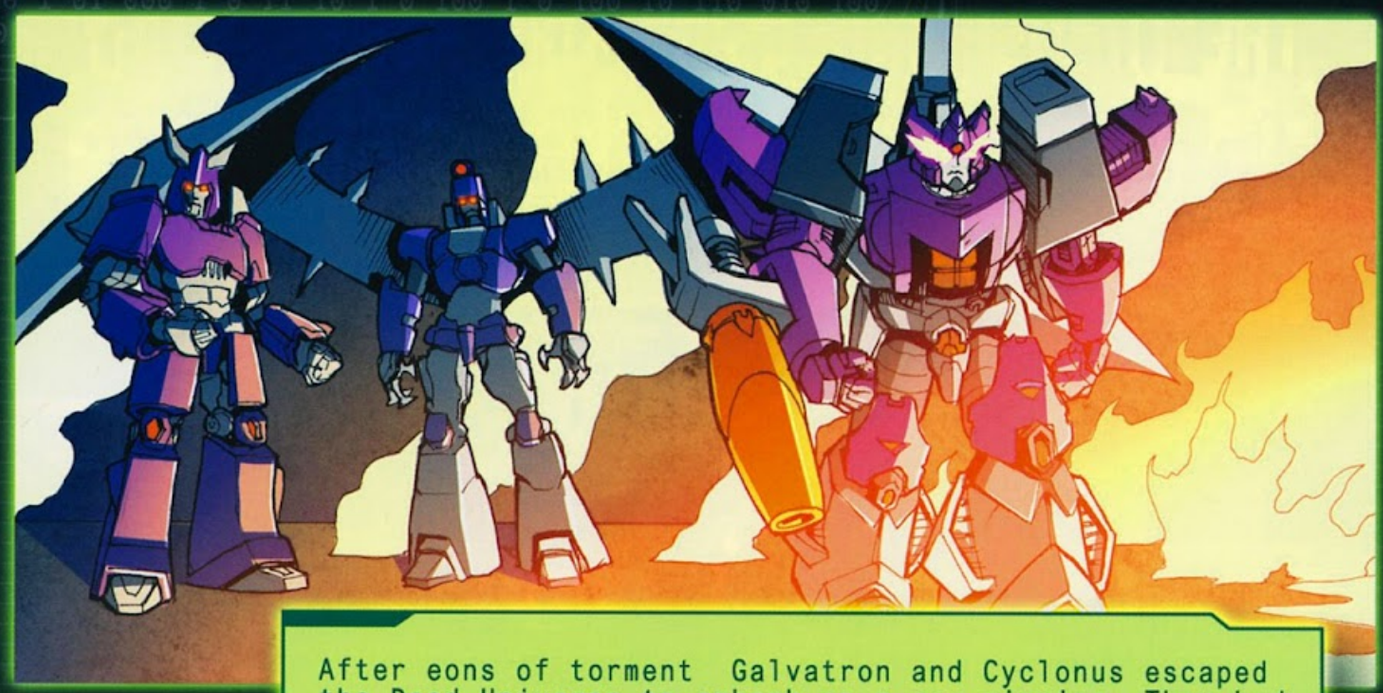
Optimus Prime and Ironhide attempted to assuage human fears about Transformers by decommissioning Cybertronian weapons on Earth

They came to the realization that their war their lives have not changed for a thousand years Ironhide contemplated retirement, believing that perhaps it's time for someone new to take his place and try fresh tactics

Starscream and the Decepticons fled Earth with the Autobot Matrix of Leadership

Starscream has been unable to open it

Sunstreaker was alive at the bottom of a Cybertronian canyon reliving his nightmare over and over and over for eternity



After eons of torment Galvatron and Cyclonus escaped the Dead Universe to embark on a new mission They had embraced the one universal constant of change, and vowed to force change on everyone and everything they encounter—chaos would reign

Bumblebee separated from the Autobots rescued several panicked humans Their reaction to him was different than ever before The Decepticon conquest had taken its toll No human would trust a Transformer—even an Autobot—ever again…

Meanwhile Spike Witwicky had been given command of a new military operation taking over the name Skywatch

His mission to capture any and all remaining Transformers on the planet Earth

THE TRANSFORMERS: READING CHRONOLOGY

For those fans interested in observing an official TRANSFORMERS timeline we've compiled this list It's not perfect as some comics take place over long periods of time or in multiple places in time

Also as records are incomplete from the Great War on Cybertron these are only the most educated guesses from our analysts

1 MEGATRON: ORIGIN #1-4

2 SPOTLIGHT: BLURR

3 SPOTLIGHT: SHOCKWAVE

4 SPOTLIGHT: JAZZ

5 SPOTLIGHT: CLIFFJUMPER

6 SPOTLIGHT: WHEELIE

7 SPOTLIGHT: SIXSHOT

8 SPOTLIGHT: HOT ROD

9 SPOTLIGHT: SOUNDWAVE

10 SPOTLIGHT: ULTRA MAGNUS

11 SPOTLIGHT: NIGHTBEAT

12 INFILTRATION #0-6

13 STORMBRINGER #1-4

14 SPOTLIGHT: KUP

15 ESCALATION #1-6

16 SPOTLIGHT: RAMJET

17 SPOTLIGHT: GALVATRON

18 SPOTLIGHT: OPTIMUS PRIME

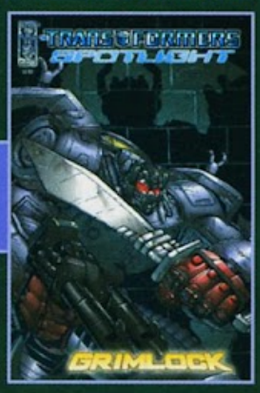
19 SPOTLIGHT: BLASTER

20 SPOTLIGHT: ARCEE

21 DEVASTATION #1-6

22 SPOTLIGHT: MIRAGE

23 SPOTLIGHT: GRIMLOCK



24 SPOTLIGHT: CYCLONUS

25 SPOTLIGHT: HARDHEAD

26 SPOTLIGHT: DOUBLEDEALER

27 SPOTLIGHT: SIDESWIPE

28 MAXIMUM DINOBOTS #1-5

29 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #15: STORY A

30 SPOTLIGHT: DRIFT

31 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #15: STORY B

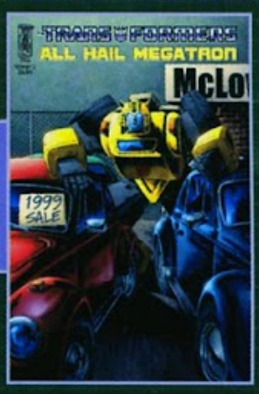
32 SPOTLIGHT: METROPLEX

33 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #1-12

34 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #13

35 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #14

36 ALL HAIL MEGATRON #16



37 THE TRANSFORMERS #1

THE TRANSFORMERS CONTINUUM

This is the essential guide to TRANSFORMERS events. Everything you need to know is all in this single issue! From the TRANSFORMERS' debut story in *Infiltration* all the way up through the end of *All Hail Megatron*—the CONTINUUM is packed with all the biggest stories and character moments that have made a whole new generation of fans!

TRANSFORMERS: CONTINUUM is a special 32-page book that brings any and all readers completely up to speed on all things TRANSFORMERS! There's no better way to catch up and get on board for the wild ride ahead!

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